THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Invitation to West German Industrialists to invest in India

1628. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister during his recent visit to West Germany (FRG) met German industrialists and investors and invited them to invest more in India;

(b) what were the difficulties pointed out by the West German industrialists and investors in this regard; and

(c) what assurances have been given by the Prime Minister to remove their difficulties and make the produre easier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The Prime Minister in his address to the German industrialists in Bonn on 7-6-1988 stated that India welcomes foreign investment in areas which will benefit our economy and help us reach our long term goals. Particularly, encouragement will be given to investment which brings in new technology or makes a special contribution to exports. In regard to procedures and clearances, he point-ed out that while we have made them simpler and quicker generally, Government of India would look into specific problems of foreign investors and set in motion a system to solve them quickly.

Export of Tobacco through STC

1629. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study as to why the State Trading Corporation has consistently failed to export large quantities of tobacco even to the State purchasing agencies in socialist countries whereas private exporters have been successfully doing it for years;

(b) if so, what are the findings; and

(c) if no study of the kind has been made, whether Government propose to initiate such study in the interest tobacco growers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) Export of tobacco is under OGL. The buyers including that of socialist countries prefer to purchase directly from exporters/traders/manufacturers with whom they have long established trading relationship.

During discussions with these countries, Government try to pursuade them to buy as much tobacco as possible from India.

STC also make efforts to sell tobacco as part of their normal activities. No specific studies have been made.

People killed by Terrorists

1630. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of people killed by terrorists and the number of terrorists killed in police encounters in the country during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.